“What Happened During the Ice Storm”

Pre reading Journal entry: How do we share in the responsibility for our fellow beings? Think of recent world disasters, AIDS in Africa, or the droughts in California. In what ways are we responsible for other humans?

Terms: Narrative, Third-person point-of-view

Vocabulary: Find 3 words that you do not understand when you first read the story. Can you figure out their meaning by reading what is around them? As a group, try and determine meaning first by context. Then take turns looking up the words in a dictionary to share with everyone else. Follow the pattern of the vocabulary organizer to log the vocabulary in your binder.

Discussion:

1. What was your reaction to what the boys did? What do you think you would have done?
2. Is there such a thing as an “instinct to do the right thing”?
3. Why do we use it sometimes and not others?
4. Does natural disaster bring out more of that instinct? (The farmers klled the pheasants for food; the boys were trying to save them. How do you think the boys’ fathers responded to what the boys did?)

Writing to expand your thoughts:

In a well-written paragraph, in your portfolio, think about the following questions and then respond to the one in bold.

When have you been able to offer help to someone else?

When has someone helped you?

How does it feel to receive help?

How does it feel to give help?

**Do you think teenagers have a responsibility to make a difference in the world?**